

THE OHIO DEMOCRAT.

"Where Liberty Dwells there is my Country."—Cicero.

BY MITCHENER & MATHEWS

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SPEECH OF MR. DUNCAN, OF OHIO.

In the House of Representatives, March 6, 1844.—On the bill introduced by him to regulate the election of electors for President and Vice President and members of Congress throughout the United States.

(Continued.)

The appropriations which supplied the first year of Mr. Van Buren's administration, were made under the last year of Gen. Jackson's administration; and of them I will say nothing. The amount expended in the first year of Mr. Van Buren's administration, which was the year 1837, was \$31,610,003. Second year, 1838, \$1,544,396. Third year, 1839, \$2,443,716. Fourth year, 1840, \$2,389,356.

Total 110,997,471

the aggregate amount of the expenditures of Mr. Van Buren's administration. I say aggregate amount; I mean by that the ordinary expenditure the civil & diplomatic expenditures, as well as the ordinary expenditures for the army and navy, Indian annuities, and interest on the funded or District debt—all of which are ordinary, because they are of yearly occurrence, whether in peace or in war. They are incidental to the army, to the navy, and to our funded debts. I mean by the extraordinary expenditures, those which occurred in consequence of the border difficulties; the public buildings, the Creek Indian war, the Florida war, the removal of Indians across the Mississippi, and their settlement in agriculture, &c.—all of which were extraordinary expenditures, and nearly all of which had their beginning, and nearly all of which had their end, in Mr. Van Buren's administration. I will exhibit the amount of those extraordinary expenditures, as well their several as their aggregate amount. I will separate them from the ordinary expenditures, and show the difference. I will then compare the ordinary expenditures of this whig reform-economical administration, and exhibit the difference, and make it so plain that every democratic boy of Israel shall be able to overthrow any whig of Gath, or of the Philistine tribe, though he be as big as Goliath.

The amount expended for the Florida war within the term of Mr. Van Buren's administration, together with the Creek war, was as reports show \$38,000,000. The amount expended on behalf of all our border difficulties 500,000. Amount for removal of Indians across the Mississippi, and their settlement 3,261,315. Amount expended on the public buildings viz: Amount on the treasury building Do do post office Do do patent office do

The aggregate of which is 42,961,315

Deduct this aggregate from the expenditures for the entire administration of Mr. Van Buren 110,997,471

And we have the sum of \$68,036,156

This we find to be the entire amount expended in Mr. Van Buren's administration for its full term, for the ordinary support of the army, navy, and the government, civil and diplomatic.

I now exhibit the expenditures of the first two years of this Philistine whig administration,—whig in the Senate—whig in the House—whig all over, with the entire control of the government in their hands, so far as the appropriating power was concerned; and I have no expenditures to exhibit but those which I have called ordinary in Mr. Van Buren's administration; for there has been no Florida war, no Indians to remove, no border difficulties except what were settled by negotiation, nor any public buildings, except some small finishing expenditures; and what do you think, sir? I hold in my hand House document No. 62, prepared by a whig officer of this House; of course it is good authority against whig profligacy. Here is the document. It is a pamphlet; it is all covered with figures, and every figure counts tens, hundreds, thousands, tens of thousands, millions, and tens of millions, such as no man can number or detail in a speech. I must describe by aggregates. I must lump the millions. Here they are. I expose them to the honest people, the hard handed tax payers, who were promised reform, retrenchment, and relief from tax burdens, if they would unite with the federalists to overthrow the democracy.

While in power, the whigs held three sessions in one Congress. Here are the appropriations made each session:

For diplomatic and miscellaneous—
First session \$1,005,091
Second session 4,635,443
Third session 6,365,545

For naval service—
First session 1,703,976
Second session 6,684,769
Third session 9,144,733

For military service, including all which belongs to the military department—
First session 2,374,637
Second session 8,737,864
Third session 9,098,907

Further appropriations for the naval department second and third sessions show 9,030,900

\$68,036,156

Thus, it seems that the ordinary expenses of the whig reform and retrenchment administration for two years, (not four) shows the sum of fifty-eight millions seven hundred and nineteen thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven dollars.

Now for the comparison. I have deducted the extraordinary expenditures under Mr. Van Buren's administration from the ordinary, and find that they were—
For the first year \$11,603,490
For the second year 14,537,579
For the third year 8,437,203
For the fourth year 5,389,343

Making in all 42,961,315

Which is the amount of the extraordinary expenditures. If we deduct this sum from the whole amount, (ordinary and extraordinary expenditures) the balance will show the amount of ordinary expenditures through the whole four years of Mr. Van Buren's administration.

Aggregate amount of ordinary and extraordinary expenditures \$110,997,471
From which deduct—
Extraordinary expenditures 42,961,315

68,036,156

This estimate shows that, through the four years of Mr. Van Buren's administration, the ordinary expenditures of the government were sixty-eight million thirty-six thousand one hundred and fifty-six dollars; while a federal poon administration, in two years of its time, under a solemn pledge of reform and retrenchment, has expended fifty-eight millions seven hundred and nineteen thousand and nine hundred dollars. Let us see the difference. Here it is:

Amount of all ordinary expenditures under Mr. Van Buren's administration [four years] 68,036,156
From which deduct—
Amount of all ordinary expenditures under the poon administration [two years] \$58,719,567

\$10,316,589

Thus it appears from statistics, official and true as moral reason, that the ordinary expenditures of the two first years of this reform and retrenchment administration have been but \$10,316,589 less than the entire four years of Mr. Van Buren's administration. But I may be told that there were some extraordinary expenditures necessary under this administration; what were they? The Florida war was closed when it came into power; at least, so near so, that there were not four hundred Seminole warriors in Florida, and they were fast coming in and surrendering. The boundary difficulty was so far concluded, that nothing was left but negotiation, and that was conducted to our disadvantage, our dishonor, and the surrender of a vast territory. The Creek war was ended, the Creek and Cherokee Indians were removed, and the public buildings were nearly completed. But if it is contended that there were extraordinary expenditures, I will offset them with some extraordinary expenditures in Mr. Van Buren's administration, which I have not classed as such. I mean the expenditures growing out of the extra session, in the summer of 1837, which was brought upon the people by the impolitic connection of the government with the swindling banking institutions.

And this, sir, is the end, so far as retrenchment and reform is concerned, which was to justify the corrupt means which were used to defeat the election of Mr. Van Buren, and overthrow the democratic party. The means as I have stated—falsehood, and its infamous auxiliaries, corruption, bribery, treason, and perjury—were to be justified by the end, and the end is an increase of the expenditure nearly double, and consequently a double imposition of taxes, and double burdens on the people. So much for the corrupt means, so much for the unfortunate end, both worthy of each other, worthy of the party who used them, and worthy party who have brought them about. I say, then, that the promises which were made of reform and retrenchment were falsehoods; they were made for the purposes of deception, and have deceived; they involve the crime of falsehood, and the injury of deception. But the sweeping, unlimited, and reckless falsehoods of 1840 were not confined to false promises; they were fraught with slander, detraction, and libels both of men and measures. To enumerate the falsehoods and slanders would require volumes; to enumerate the slanders would be to embrace every prominent democrat in the country, and every measure of the then administration. It is not my purpose to enter into particulars, or to deal in personalities; but there is one case, and one person, that I must be permitted to speak of while on this branch of the subject. The case to which I allude was the speech of Mr. Buchanan of the Senate; and that person is honest John Davis of Massachusetts! Honest John Davis! God save the mark!

Mr. Buchanan when supporting the independent treasury bill, said: "The chief object was to disconnect the government from all banks; to secure the people's money from the wreck of the banking system, and to have it always ready to promote the prosperity of the country in peace, and to defend it in war." Incidentally, however, it will do some good in checking the extravagant spirit of speculation, which is the bane of society." Mr. B. throughout his speech, from which the above extracts are taken, denied that the independent treasury system would or could have the effect to produce the disasters upon the community which its enemies attributed to it. The effects attributed were, that it would destroy the banks, break down the credit system, establish an exclusive metallic currency, reduce the value of property, and the price of labor. He denied that the bill possessed the power to produce such effects; and (as all his speeches show) was opposed to an exclusive metallic currency in the condition of the country, owing to the manner in which the commercial, mercantile, and general interests of the country were interwoven with banks paper currency, and the credit system. No man trod more cautiously, or advanced with more precision, and at the same time, with more firmness, in the reformations that were then in progress in relation to the currency, and to the control, management, and disbursement of the national revenue, than did Mr. B. The safety of the revenue, and its proper and secure management, and without materially affecting the channels of trade and the general interests of the country seemed to be his highest object—for the truth of which I can safely refer to all his speeches in support of the independent treasury plan, and all financial measures appertaining thereto. I speak knowingly; I speak from hearing his speeches when made, and reading them when printed; and yet, in the face of all who heard him, and all who read his speeches, John Davis puts this argument in his mouth, viz: "It (the independent treasury) contains the necessary corrective for the evils imputable to the pernicious influence of bank paper, as it will check importations of foreign goods, suppress what we call the credit system, and by restoring a specie currency, reduce the wages of labor and the value of property." And this argument, which Mr. Buchanan never conceived, (or if he did, never expressed) constituted a part of "honest John's" speech, and was heralded far and wide through the country; and was labelled and endorsed, and heralded back again, by every foul, filthy, false federal sheet in the land; and by every biced bank minion and corrupt demagogue in the shape of a stump speaker, from Daniel Webster down to the most contemptible whig whiff of federal mimicry. I take it on myself to say, and hold myself responsible, that a more meretricious

falsehood never invented—a baser and more groundless falsehood never entered the head of beast of any man. It was a falsehood worthy to be conceived by a vile, vitiated brain; worthy to be cherished by a corrupt heart; worthy to be promulgated by a poisoned pen; and worthy to be endorsed by a reckless, unprincipled, and corrupt party. I have noticed this falsehood, though at first personal; but it was told and spread to deceive a nation, and it did deceive a nation. It contained in its beginning the crime of a falsehood, and in effect and end the injury of a falsehood. I name it & expose it in connection with others of a like character, that the individual community may guard themselves against the effects of such falsehoods in the coming contest, which will fall upon the country as leaves in autumn by the blight of frost.

But falsehood & slander, & the base, criminal, & treasonable auxiliaries which were brought to co-operate with them, as I have said, were not the only resort of the federalists in '40. There were other means, perhaps less criminal, but not less disgraceful, resorted to. I mean drunken orgies, stinky displays, vulgar scenes, & exhibitions of coons, skunks, empty barrels, old gourds, & snapping turtles; profane sacrifices, Tippecanoe & Hartford banners. These disgraceful shows, senseless parades, and profane demonstrations, were as fatal to the good order of society, & the moral institutions of the country, as the change they effected was fatal to its political and pecuniary interests. Dignity of character, and morality of purpose, were alike sacrificed. All orders, all sexes, and all professions, of the entire federal family, were contaminated with the virus. Every institution & every temple, however sacred, was polluted. The temple of justice & the temple of religion, the judges seat & sacred desk, were prostituted to the use & the level of the doggery, & the haunts of debauchery & dissipation. Yes, sir, not only were the shrine of the judgment-seat contaminated but the sacred desk and the pulpit were polluted; and some of those who claim to be ministers of the gospel, ambassadors of our Saviour, and Heaven's bearers of despatches and glad tidings, standard bearers of the holy cross, and those who administer the holy sacraments, prostituted themselves from their high and lofty station, to which none but apostles, and ministers ordained by Heaven's sanction should presume to ascend, even some of them, I say, prostituted themselves at the shrine of the corruptions and political inquiries of that time, and in place of obeying the commands of their divine Master, in teaching the way of salvation to a dying world, were found playing the political missionary. In place of bearing witness to the truth of His holy religion, they were endorsing all the base, false, and infamous slanders and detraction which were propagated to overthrow the administration—slander and detraction worthy of the disempered brain of the reckless political desperado; the heart of corruption, and the tongue of poison.

I cheerfully recognize the right of every individual in the community to exercise the rights of a freeman; but while I hold sacred the names of Christian minister and apostle I deem it a duty I owe to the holy religion, by which I hope for redemption and salvation in the world to come, to denounce the man who will abuse it, as unworthy to be its professional advocate. Yes, sir, some of them were found participating with, & mingling in the drunken carousals that would have disgraced a bacchanalian feast, in the most degraded days of Greece. Such men are made for the tables of money changers, not for casting out devils. They might grace a gambler's board, but they would pollute a temple. For the honor of the holy religion of our fathers, and the sacred names of minister and apostle, I hope there were not many who so disgraced themselves, their name, and the religion which it is their profession to teach. But there were some. They will be marked, and made the subjects of religious and moral condemnation while they live, and wherever they go. Such were the demoralizing effects of means used in 1840, & such the end which justified the means. But, sir, other promises were made besides those of reform and retrenchment. We will examine them, and see how far they have been fulfilled. We were promised a sound currency, and plenty of it. How has that promise been fulfilled? It is useless for me to relate what everybody knows; and that, that this administration has done nothing either to improve the currency, or to increase its quantity. So, under the general head of falsehoods, I place that is No. 2.

The people were told that treasury notes were an unconstitutional currency, and were the offspring of the independent treasury. They were denounced and ridiculed as "Uncle Sam's shingle stars." The constitution was to be preserved, and there was to be no such shingle star currency. This whig had not been in power three months, before they authorized the issue of millions of dollars in treasury notes; and they have constituted a vast portion of the national currency from that day to this. That is general falsehood No. 3.

The people were told, among the thousand other falsehoods about the independent treasury, that it was a dangerous executive engine, and that it placed the "purse in the hands of the President, and gave him a dangerous control of the national treasury; and if they obtained possession of the government, that dangerous executive control should be abolished. The consequence was, that the President and his secretary, ipso facto, acquired the entire and uncontrolled possession and management of every dollar of the public revenue, and have so enjoyed it from that day to this. The violation of that promise I call falsehood No. 4.

It was urged that the administrations of Gen. Jackson and Mr. Van Buren were proscriptive administrations, that they were administration of a party and not of the people; that no man was permitted to share in the discharge of official duties, except those who were partisans to the principles and supporters of their administrations, merit, worth, honesty, and talents were disregarded, &c. All this was false; for, throughout both the administrations of Gen. Jackson and Mr. Van Buren, there were more federalists who held office under the general government than democrats. But I have no time to detail single whig falsehoods; I must limit myself to generals. It was said that such a system of unrelenting proscription was demoralizing, and was corrupting the morals and prostrating the patriotism of the nation; and, if the democracy could be overthrown "proscription should be proscribed." "Proscription proscribed" was one of the federal coon banners.

Here Mr. Duncan held up a whig banner, bearing this inscription:

PROSCRIPTION
TO BE
PROSCRIBED

No man was to be turned out of office for opinion's sake. The only question was to be, "is he honest, is he capable." All this, it was well known, was contemptible cant and miserable hypocrisy. For one month before the presidential inauguration, this city was crowded with office-seekers, loafers, and loungers, leagu, long, and lank; to the number (it was said) of more than thirty thousand. I know that every public and private house (and some houses that I shall not name) were full from garret to cellar, and filled as the houses were, it was impossible to walk ten steps at a time in the avenue, without being jostled by some staggering, hungry, federal loafer. They seemed to have flocked from every part and every longitude and every latitude, and every zone, torrid, temperate, and frigid of this wide-spread

Union; numerous as the locusts, the lice, and the frogs of Egypt, and more devouring and destructive. Old federalists, who had been driven into caves with the Adamites, where they had slept for forty years, waked up, came forth in their moth-riddled, antiquated garbs, staggering on their worm-eaten staves, dragging their withered, emaciated carcasses, and shaking their gray locks,—such a gathering never before was seen; such a gathering will never again be seen, until the sea shall give up her dead at the summons of the last trump.—Well, the inauguration came, and with it, as a first step the dismissal of every chief democratic officer at the head of every department of the government; then commenced the guillotine. The axe was not permitted to dry, nor the executioner to sleep; each head in each department vied with each other in the work of execution. But Granger and Ewing went ahead, and even surpassed Robespierre, their worthy master and patron. The trial was more summary than that of the victims of the triumvirate. The inquiry to each victim, was not, "Is he capable, is he honest?" It was, Are you democrat? Do you belong to the democratic association, and are you a subscriber to the Extra Globe? The answer being in the affirmative, off went his head. Bring forward another, so it went. Such was the inquisition—such the guillotine—such the Robespierres, and such the fate of the victims.

Mr. Speaker, there were more men proscribed for opinion's sake the first six months of this administration than there were from the first day of Gen. Washington's administration, to the last day of Martin Van Buren's. So I make "proscription proscribed" general falsehoods No. 6.

One of the charges of extravagance against Mr. Van Buren's administration was the "princely manner" in which the President's house was furnished. That falsehood was negated by the appropriation of six thousand dollars, made to furnish the President's house at the commencement of this administration. That appropriation was properly made; the President's house required it; but the application of the money was not made as intended. I do not know what was done with all the money. I think I know what was done with part of it. I am told that near twenty-five hundred dollars was laid out in wines to furnish the cellar—not in furniture for the house. What will the honest, sober tax-paying community say, when they learn that this was to be economical and reform administration used twenty-five hundred dollars of their money to purchase wines for the loafing, lounging, lank federal office-hunter to guzzle down. But I must be brief off every head; so I place the charge of extravagance of the President's house—"gold spoons, French bedsteads," &c.—to general falsehoods No. 7.

The day-laborers were told that if they would join the federalists in the overthrow of the democratic party, they should receive two dollars a day and good roast beef. I hold a banner in my hand, here it is; and here is the promise. Here is the inscription. It reads:

64 cts. a day and SHEEPS PLUCK
to the LABOER under
VAN-BUREN,
2 DOLLARS A DAY and
GOOD ROAST BEEF UNDER
GEN. HARRISON.

This was your promise, and this your flag displayed in all your cavalcades, and in all your hand-cider-rides and bacchanalian feasts far and wide. How has that promise been fulfilled? Thousands of honest laborers will answer next fall, through the ballot-box—that they can get but twenty-five cents a day and no beef at all.—So I place that promise to the credit of No. 8.

The federalists in the last Congress made but one attempt at retrenchment; that attempt was but insolent hypocrisy, and made to deceive. The democrats, in a former Congress, reduced the price of public printing fifteen per cent. When the federalists came into power prior to electing the government printers, they passed a resolution reducing the price of printing twenty per cent or five per cent more; and then elected Gales & Seaton printers. That was the show of retrenchment, and under that contract and resolution was the public printing done, but in order to compensate for the reduction of the price, more printing was given to Gales & Seaton, by nearly one-half, than ever was given to public printers before by any Congress in the same length of time. But that was not all; at the close of the last session, and on one of the last appropriation bills, was made an amendment appropriating forty thousand dollars to Gales & Seaton, in addition to the price stipulated in the contract. Thus was the public treasury robbed of food and fatten a pampered favorite partisan. So much for the only attempt to fulfill the promise of retrenchment. That hypocritical show and false pretence I mark No. 9.

Sir, my time, and the limits of a speech, will not permit me to prosecute the subject. If I had time I could fill a volume with these startling and damning falsehoods. I have selected those general and unvarnished ones, because they were connected with promises the more effectually to mislead the thoughtless and unwary; because they were appeals to the passions, to cupidity, and to avarice. When you hold up the promises made in 1840 to the federalists, and ask them, Why have you not made the retrenchments and reforms you promised in the government expenditures? Where is the plenty of money, and of good quality, you promised? Why have you not preserved that sacred principle of patriotism—toleration in office—for the abuse of which you so denounced the administrations of General Jackson & Mr. Van Buren? Why did you not "proscribe proscription"? Where is that brilliant prosperity you promised to every institution, to every interest, & to every person in the country? But above all, where is that: two dollars a day and good roast beef you promised the day laborer? The answer is, Oh! Gen. Harrison, died, & John Tyler turned traitor. Every sniffling whig whiff, & bank snarler, as well as every pompous puff-up, haughty, federal aristocratic rag-baron has that answer on his tongue.

Gen. Harrison died, but John Tyler did not turn traitor. Of Gen. Harrison & his death, I have nothing to say. Peace be to his ashes. If he had any faults in his life, I am the last to speak of them. Let his nar-

row tement at North Bend conceal them. His virtues I will be first to speak of on all proper occasions.—But I feel so restrained in saying that the man you elect to fill the highest station that man can occupy—to discharge duties the most important that can interest a nation—by such unallowed means, and such unallowed purposes,—he will die, too, in one month. There is a Providence who superintends this nation. He holds its destinies in His hand; His track is to be seen in every path of the revolution that emancipated us; and he who cannot see His divine interposition throughout this administration is a fool. I predict that, if the same means are to be used by the federalists to secure the election of their candidate, I mean drunken orgies, empty & profane songs, coon-skins, hard-cider, carousals, & their kindred & criminal means, perjury, treason, falsehood, corruption, bribery, swindling & blasphemy; & the end to be effected by such means is to break down our free institutions, trample upon the constitution; & subvert human liberty—the result will be as it has been. The workers of such iniquity will fall before the breath & vengeance of a just God, as grass before the scythe. I speak of the guilty, not the innocent. But John Tyler did not turn traitor; John Tyler has done nothing to merit such a charge. This charge is made, because he vetoed the bank bill.

The whigs caught a Tartar when they elected John Tyler—that is, they elected an honest man. He was raised a Democrat, and prior to 1839 had always been a democrat, and a member of the Democratic party; some of his last official acts, when a member of the United States Senate, were directed with ability and eloquence against the bank of the United States. He was a warm and ardent supporter of General Jackson, and all the leading measures of his administration, until what was called the proclamation made its appearance. To some of the doctrines contained in that paper, he took exceptions, and for a time withdrew his support and influence from the democratic party, under the supposition that he had abandoned the democratic principles. The whig Harrisburg Convention nominated him for Vice President, with a view to unite the whig abolitionists of the North against the Democracy of the North and South. Mr. Tyler was not questioned as to his political principles prior to his election; consequently, he was under no pledges as to what measures he would or would not support. President Harrison died; Mr. Tyler took his place, untrammelled by any party, bound alone by motives & principles of patriotism, with a free Judgement, and I believe an honest heart. Soon after the executive duties devolved on him the extra session was called, and one of the first acts of the session was to pass a bill to incorporate a national bank. John Tyler vetoed it, and that is his great offence; for it has been denounced far and wide, by every hireling whig press, as a traitor, and by every whig demagogue as a scandal. The short of the story is, the whigs were playing a fraudulent game, when the elected John Tyler, and they got caught in their own net. I am no Tyler man, but it is due to my feelings and justice, to say that the Democracy and the country owe Mr. Tyler a debt of gratitude which will only be paid when the party strife which overshadows good, and regards evil shall have passed away, and merit and worth shall have a place in the political history of our country.

When General Jackson heard that John Tyler had vetoed that bill of abominations, he thanked his God that "we had one honest man left." When General Jackson, in 1839, vetoed the bill to recharter the Bank of the United States, every heart and every tongue of every patriot was full of gratitude and praise. It was said that, under all circumstances then existing, (meaning the power of the Bank and the strength and influence of the bank party) there was no other man who had the nerve and the moral courage to brave the storm, but General Jackson. John Tyler did the same thing, under as fearful circumstances; why should he not have the same amount of gratitude and praise? "Render unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's."

Mr. Tyler has done things that I regret. I regret that he signed the bill to repeal the Independent Treasury. I regret that he signed the bankrupt bill, by which just claims to the amount of millions were repudiated, swindlers encouraged, and scoundrels discharged from their honest obligations. I regret, above all that he signed the bill to provide for the distribution of the proceeds of the public lands—a measure that, in its effect and object, was designed to plunder the people and bribe the States. But of all this the Democracy, as a party have no right to complain. Mr. Tyler was not of their choice, nor is he indebted to them for his situation. He has done all for the Democracy that they could hope, and more than they had a right to expect.

Permit me on this occasion to say that no blame is to be attached to the President for the profligacy and extravagance of this administration. It was the people's representatives in the House and Senate who made the appropriations of the people's money, and not the President. Let the blame rest where it properly belongs. "Let justice be done, though the heavens should fall."

Mr. Speaker, from the very nature of our government, and from the nature of the representative character, the people have a right to demand, and to know the principles and the measures which shall govern, and be sustained by every candidate for office in the event of his election; and that right to command carries with it the duty and obligation, on the part of the candidate, to answer all interrogatories, made in a proper manner, and from proper motives, touching the duties, measures, and principles, which shall govern him in the event of his election. That right and that duty were both violated in the contest of 1840, by the federal candidates for office. The candidate for the presidency was interrogated as to what measures and what principles would govern him in the event of his election? Those interrogatories were put to him from proper motives, and in a proper manner; but he refused to answer, and the people were given to understand that he would give "no opinion for the public eye." A National Bank, a high protective tariff, the Independent Treasury, the assumption of the State debts, and the distribution of the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, were all questions in which the people felt a deep interest. They were the great questions which had often agitated the country, and had divided the two great parties from the commencement of the Government to that time, and still continue to do so. But it was part of the whig orgie